



May 6, 2018

## The Abomination of Desolation

*Matthew 24:15*

Regardless of how you view the first 14 verses of Matthew 24, beginning in verse 15 Jesus is speaking prophetically about future events ... events that will affect the Jews and the nation of Israel in particular.

See Matthew 24:21 – here Jesus references Daniel 12:1.

- Zechariah 13 tells us two out of three will perish in Israel at that time.
- Jeremiah 30:7 – “time of Jacob’s distress” (trouble).
- Zechariah 12 – Jerusalem, a “cup of reeling” for all the nations. Then vs. 10 says, “They will look on Me, whom they have pierced.”
- Then there is Romans 11, beginning in vs. 25. There he quotes Isaiah 59:21-22, 27:9.

Why? Romans 11:28 – from God’s standpoint, they are His ELECT.

- God still has an incredible future for Israel, that will come through much pain and suffering.
- Jesus unfolds that plan in this incredible chapter.
- The point? Be dressed in readiness! Endure, keep believing, keep living for Christ, keep spreading the Gospel (vs. 14) ... Hebrews 10:37-39.

Two points from Matthew 24:15:

### 1) The Prophecy of Daniel

- “Therefore” – connect to the end of vs. 14, “and then the end will come”.
- “When you see” – something they would see, OBSERVE.
- What would that be? The abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel.
- Look at Daniel 9:27-30.
- 490 units of time (years) set aside by God for Israel in world history.
- 483 years have been used up (7 + 62) or 69 X 7 = 483.
- At that time Messiah was cut off, crucified.
- The temple and city were destroyed by Titus in 70 A.D., killing 1,100,000 Jews (comes with a flood) ... tens of thousands taken captive and dispersed.
- That leaves 1 week of years, or 7 years ... antichrist makes a covenant ... middle of the week he breaks it ... and for 3 ½ years he makes desolate, until he is made desolate (destroyed himself) – see Revelation 19.
- What is this abomination “standing” in the Holy Place?

- See Daniel 11:31 – Antiochus Epiphanes or Theos Epiphanes, “god manifest” ruled Syria from 175-165 B.C.
- Set up an idol of Zeus in the Jewish temple – he was a pre-figuring of antichrist!
- Then there is Daniel 12:8-13.
- When the covenant is broken, and antichrist sets up the abomination of desolation, there will be 1,260 days (middle of the week, 3 ½ years, 42 months, 1,260 days) plus 30 days to judge and break down man’s kingdoms (1,290) plus 45 days to establish the worldwide rule of Christ from Jerusalem (1,335 days).
- That’s one scenario!

But what is the abomination of desolation that is SET UP?

- 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 – antichrist will set himself up as god, in the temple of God! He will demand worship of himself!
- Revelation 13:11-18
- For the last 3 ½ years, there is quite possibly an idol (image) of antichrist in the temple of God! Not to worship it, not to receive the mark of the beast, means instant death!

2) The Purpose of Daniel’s Prophecy? Let the reader understand ...

- This is God’s inspired, authoritative, inerrant Word.
- God’s Word, and even prophecy and the future, was meant to be understood!
- These bring great blessing – Revelation 1:3, 22:7; 1 Thess 4:18; 1 Cor. 15:58.

We understand the time is near ... only the Gospel can change any man’s destiny!

### **Suggested Devotional Reading**

---

**Monday:** Read the most complete prophecy in the O.T. – Daniel 9:24-27

**Tuesday:** Read about the rapture – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58

**Wednesday:** Read about antichrist – Revelation 13, 17

**Thursday:** Read about Jerusalem at the end – Zechariah 12-14

**Friday:** The timing of it all – 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12

**Saturday:** Memorize Matthew 24:15

### **TABLE TALK**

Read through 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12 and write down the scenario of the end times, as spelled out in these verses. Jot them down in order!